



# MINUTES



**CRANE MOUNTAIN ENHANCEMENT INC. (CMEI)  
Board of Directors Meeting  
November 7, 2023  
KBM**

The November meeting of the Board of Directors of Crane Mountain Enhancement Inc. was called to order at 6:01 by John Doubt.

In attendance: John Doubt, Jane Tunney, Patti Chisholm, Greg Snow, J.P. Casey, Jon Bidgood, Michelle Lodge, Ryan Brown

Regrets: Lori Nason

## **PRESENTATION OF THE AGENDA**

**Motion:** That the November 7, 2023 agenda be accepted as presented.

**Moved by:** Patti Chisholm

**Seconded by:** Ryan Brown

**Motion:** Carried.

## **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

**Motion:** That the minutes of the October 3, 2023 meeting, with corrections, be accepted. (J.P Casey's name was reported when it should have been Greg Snow.)

**Moved by:** Greg Snow

**Seconded by:** Michelle Lodge

**Motion:** Carried.

## **FUNDY REGIONAL SOLID WASTE REPORT (FRSW)**

John distributed a report listing several aspects regarding the landfill

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

1. **Website:** John has put the new website on the URL. He asked members to review it and let him know if they discover any problems. He noted it is listed as "not secure" and that the cost to secure a SSL certificate is \$100 plus tax.

**Motion:** To purchase the City and District SSL certificate in the amount of \$100 plus tax.

**Moved by:** Ryan Brown

**Seconded by:** Jane Tunney

**Motion:** Carried

John will forward the quote to Patti Chisholm.

**Possible service upgrade.** The board is presently paying \$24.95 per month. The business plan would cost \$34.95 per month. John listed the things the new plan would include. He recommended the board not purchase this plan. Brilliant Labs has done some work on the website at no charge. John has asked for an invoice but has not, as yet, received one.

**2. Actions by EXP:** John Sims is still away. John reported there are 22 data loggers and he thinks it is time to take another download.

**3. Landfill Height Increase.** Feedback was acquired from Gemtec. The next question is “what is the board’s next step” and that it should be done soon. Patti asked if the board could have access to their research. She thinks it should be provided. John said he would ask for that. John sent out the feedback from the technical review committee and posted it on the website as well.

## **CHAIR’S REPORT**

John presented a Chair’s Report and circulated it to the board. See Appendix.

He then spoke regarding the liner system and offered some history regarding this which is not in the report. There was discussion on both these subjects.

It was felt the tour of the landfill was a good one. All the questions were answered at that time. John asked if there were any other comments. The members are impressed with the landfill and what they have done. Jon wondered about the profile of the site.

Grand Bay-Westfield does its own recycling. Jon wondered if there could be blue bins placed at the entrance of the landfill for those who arrive after hours. There was a question of what happens to the recycled items after they are sold.

Michelle wondered how much impact the board has when dealing with any of this.

John reported Marc is opposed to any more public information sessions. The departments says “no” and that they have met the criteria, in their opinion.

John Adams is being invited to join the board. John will look into this.

Regarding the information Jane sent out to the councillors and mayors of Saint John and Grand Bay-Westfield, she was wondering if the board had heard anything back. As there was no response, Jane was asked to put something together to send out again.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

John passed two invoices to Patti, one for \$5.89 for water and one for \$71.45 for supper.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Patti presented the Treasurer's Report for the period ending November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 with an opening balance of \$71,295.82, with total expenses of \$342.76 and an ending balance of \$70,953.06. Patti reported bank charges went up by \$5.00 per annum. She also reported there is a bill for \$55.00 from the Legion for a wreath that needs to be paid as well as one from EXP for professional services in the amount of \$1,602.81.

**Moved by:** Ryan Brown that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented.

**Seconded by:** Jon Bidgood

**Motion:** Carried

## **MONITORING COMMITTEE**

Nil

## **SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE**

John wondered when the start for the next round of project funding will begin. This happens in the new year.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Jane received an email from the newspaper regarding advertising for the AGM and other events. John looked into the bylaws to see what the criteria are in connection with the AGM. He reported that advertising is required, but that there is no specifically defined media for the advertising. There was discussion about how this could be accomplished.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** That the meeting be adjourned.

**Moved by:** Patti Chisholm

**Motion:** Carried

Respectfully submitted,  
Joanne Boudreau



## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Board of Directors Meeting

7 November 2023

### **Groundwater**

One of the major concerns regarding the Crane Mountain landfill is the potential for leachate to leak through the liner system and permeate into the groundwater, thereby threatening the approximately 1000 private wells that are downstream of the landfill.

There are approximately 60 wells in and around the landfill that are used to sample groundwater upstream and downstream of the landfill. Samples are taken each quarter and subjected to testing for a large variety of chemical and metal contents.

Peter Baxter, Technical Advisor to four of New Brunswick's landfills, has developed a database of the sample and has developed a program to define a trigger mechanism for the landfill groundwater monitoring.

So far, there have been few issues discovered with the triggers that have not resulted from naturally occurring phenomena (e.g. impact of road salt in the early spring). There was one issue recently that has yet to be explained.

Before the trigger program was developed, a data model representing the groundwater flow through and away from the landfill was developed; Peter was involved in its development.

CMEI arranged for exp to install 22 dataloggers into wells around the landfill. The readings from these will be used to continue to confirm the findings of the data model.

The biggest discovery from the data model is that in general, the flow in the groundwater is upwards, which means that in the event of any leachate leakage, the pollution will end up on the surface. This implies that the wells in the neighbourhood are most likely safe from any landfill effect, but that any pollution will end up in the Saint John River.

### **Liner**

The other major concern is the structure and safety of the liner of the cells. This liner is key to ensuring that the leachate from the garbage is retained within the cells and collected for appropriate disposal. The significant part of this is the marine clay and geosynthetic liner. The best quality marine clay is minimally permeable so that should any liquid reach it, it is channelled to the edge of the cells. This marine clay was the subject of the previous EIA (in 2019) as it was found off Acamac Backland Road and the owner of the land was willing to sell the land to the landfill. When the FRSC Board rejected the project, one of the reasons was the approval of a different geosynthetic liner system, which is supposed to lessen the need for the quality of the marine clay base.

The strength of the liner system and its durability is key to the containment of pollution within the landfill cells. Dr. Kerry Rowe is concerned about the effect of PFAS (otherwise known as forever chemicals) on the liner system. This is probably the biggest issue in the height increase.